

of Patriot Act authority to secretly search homes and seize private papers, [and] the McCain amendment forbidding any U.S. officials to use torture or cruel and inhumane treatment on prisoners."

Where legislation has mandated reports to Congress on special matters, such as the Intelligence Authorization Act of 2002, the signing statement treated the requirement as only advisory, said the task force. The task force said President Bush's signing statements are "particularly adamant about preventing any of his subordinates from reporting directly to Congress."

With more than 410,000 members, the American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional membership organization in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law in a democratic society.

CAPITOL SHOOTINGS ANNIVERSARY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, 8 years ago today, two brave men gave their lives in defense of the U.S. Capitol. A plaque in this building commemorates their bravery, their names have been etched indelibly upon the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial a mile from here, and the headquarters of the U.S. Capitol Police now bears their names.

These memorials are fitting and proper. But they do not do these men full justice. We must also remember them in our words and our actions. All Members of Congress, all congressional staff, and, indeed, all Americans owe a great debt of gratitude to Officer Jacob Joseph Chestnut and Detective John Michael Gibson.

For a few moments, I would like to reflect upon the enormous bravery of these two men.

Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson were both hardworking family men. Gibson had three children; Chestnut, five. Gibson found great happiness in the exploits of the Boston Red Sox and Boston Bruins. He knew their rosters by heart. Chestnut loved working in his garden. I knew both men by sight. I passed Officer Chestnut most every day on my way in to work.

On Friday, July 24, 1998, both men were nearing the end of a busy work day. But events unfolded with a quick and horrible speed. At about 3:40 p.m. police and prosecutors allege that Russell Eugene Weston entered the Capitol through the East Entrance. He attempted to evade a metal detector and Chestnut stepped into his path to stop him—to protect all of us. Weston shot him at point-blank range.

Weston then allegedly proceeded down the corridor, rushing towards the Office of the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives. Gibson, those who were in the office say, warned everyone to get down. He yelled "Drop your weapon" and exchanged gunfire with Weston. The crazed gunman hit Gibson in the leg and the chest. Gibson hit Weston in the leg and

chest as well. A female tourist got caught in the crossfire and suffered serious but fortunately non-life threatening wounds. Both men hit the floor, bleeding profusely. Gibson's actions saved lives. As one staffer put it at the time, "Thank God there was a good guy with a gun."

Sitting in my Dirksen office, I had begun preparations to leave for the weekend when I was notified an emergency was unfolding at the Capitol. My instincts and my surgical training took over.

I ran to the East "Law Library Entrance" at the Capitol. I saw blood all over—a horrible scene. Three bodies lay on the ground. I turned my attention to treating them. In the chaos, I didn't recognize any of the three.

I assisted the medical first responders in controlling the hemorrhaging and securing an airway, and then helping two of the victims into the ambulances. I rode in the ambulance to help control the hemorrhage of one of the injured. It turned out that patient was the alleged perpetrator.

All of us should, every day, give thanks for the bravery and sacrifices of Officer Jacob Joseph Chestnut and Detective John Michael Gibson. Many have contributed funds set up to assist their families and rarely a day goes by that I don't remember both of them in my thoughts and prayers.

The shootings that took place on July 24, 1998, were an attack on this Capitol, a central symbol of our democracy and, thus, an attack on the openness of Congress, and, in turn, upon the very principle of two-way communication between the people and their elected representatives.

Two brave men stood up for us all. They defended our democracy itself. We will not all be called to the same sort of moral heroism but can all learn from their example and all reflect upon their bravery.

Today, we mourn for them, we pray for the families, we thank them, and we remember them.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT ON WILDFIRES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, wildfires have already burned almost 300,000 acres in Nevada this year, and over 1.7 million acres were destroyed by fire last year. One particularly devastating fire last year burned over 500,000 acres in southern Nevada.

Well-established science indicates small, normally occurring wildfires are part of the healthy life-cycle of forests. Large, catastrophic fires, though, can sometimes cause extreme and irreversible damage to the delicate ecosystems in the West.

People in Nevada have always been concerned about wildfires and their ability to destroy homes, businesses, and our State's natural beauty. Recently, though, Nevadans and people throughout the West have begun to notice and ask questions about the dramatic changes in wildfire intensity and frequency.

The Congressional Research Service has concluded that many factors con-

tribute to the threat of wildfires. These factors include unnaturally high fuel loads, the urban-wildland interface, the increase of invasive plant species, unnatural wildfire suppression, and grazing and logging practices.

A recent scholarly article titled "Warming and Earlier Spring Increases Western U.S. Forest Wildfire Activity" published online on July 6, 2006, in the *Journal of Science* focuses on the previously unexplored correlation between climate change and wildfires. The article found that the frequency and intensity of wildfires in the West are growing as the climate gets hotter.

Two of the most telling parts of the article found that "robust statistical associations between wildfire and hydro-climate in western forests indicate that increased wildfire activity over recent decades reflects sub-regional responses to changes in climate." In addition, the authors assert that "large increases in wildfire driven by increased temperatures and earlier spring snowmelts in forests where land use history had little impact on fire risks indicates that ecological restoration and fuels management alone will not be sufficient to reverse current wildfire trends."

Mr. President, I do not believe that the issue of climate change should be a partisan issue. I hope the mountain of scientific evidence that is piling up on climate change will compel my colleagues on both sides and the administration to treat climate change as a moral issue and quickly enact mandatory reductions in global greenhouse emissions.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

DULUTH EAST HIGH SCHOOL, DULUTH, MINNESOTA

• Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Duluth East High School, in Duluth, MN, which recently earned an Award for Excellence in Education for its exceptional and innovative achievements in educating children.

Duluth East High School is truly a model of educational success, which is reflected in the achievements of its students. Duluth East High School boasts a 98-percent graduation rate. Ninety-one percent of its graduates go on to some type of postsecondary education, with over 66 percent enrolling in a 4-year college. The class of 2005 had two students who qualified as National Merit semifinalists; nine received Letters of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation; 23 earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average; and, all told, members of the class were offered in excess of \$2 million in scholarship monies.

Duluth East provides many challenging courses for high-achieving students, offering advanced placement courses in English, calculus, and European history. All advanced placement

students are required to take the advanced placement test at the end of the term. Students scoring three or better on the test automatically earn college credit. Last year, 70 percent of all Duluth East students who took the advanced placement tests scored three or above.

In addition to the advanced placement classes, Duluth East offers College in the School classes and honors classes in English, biology, chemistry, physics, and anatomy/physiology.

Two Duluth East teachers received significant recognition last year. Peg Zahorick, a special education teacher, was designated Teacher of the Year by Arc of Minnesota. She was honored for her work on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities and their families. Cindy Grindy, a chemistry teacher at Duluth East, was named the 2005 Star of American Teaching for Minnesota. That award is given by the U.S. Department of Education.

Much of the credit for Duluth East High School's success belongs to its principal, Laurie Knapp, and to the dedicated teachers. The students and staff at Duluth East High School understand that, in order to be successful, a school must go beyond achieving academic success. It must also provide a nurturing environment where students can develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes for success throughout life. All of the faculty, staff, and students at Duluth East High School should be very proud of their accomplishments.

I congratulate Duluth East High School in Duluth for winning the Award for Excellence in Education and for its exceptional contributions to education in Minnesota.●

MAYOR MARK ZEIGLER OF STURGIS, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I to pay tribute to the work of a distinguished public official in my home State of South Dakota. On September 4, Mark Zeigler will step aside as mayor of Sturgis to become the president of Northwestern Health Science University in Bloomington, MN.

Mark and his wife Gae, an elementary school teacher, arrived in Sturgis on the last day of the 1980 Sturgis motorcycle rally. Mark quickly established his chiropractic practice. Later he began his political career by completing the term of Maurice LaRue on the Sturgis City Council.

For the next 14 years, Mark served on the Sturgis City Council. He left the council in 1997 and was elected mayor in 2001. During the past 5 years as mayor, and his nearly 20 years of community service to the residents of Sturgis, Mark has worked to make the community a better place to work, live, and raise a family.

During Mayor Zeigler's tenure, the city developed a state-of-the-art library and city hall complex that will serve the community and area residents for many years into the future.

He also worked towards the construction of a new fire hall that will provide expanded services to the Sturgis community and area.

Mayor Zeigler has been especially successful in promoting economic development. Not so many years ago, it appeared the city lacked the means to expand its industrial base. But Mayor Zeigler succeeded in working with city officials to design and expand the city's industrial park complex. Through his leadership, Sturgis has developed a niche among gun and ammunition manufacturers. In addition, he has made Sturgis a more attractive place to live and work by expanding and beautifying the city's greenway and bike path areas.

During his years of community service and as mayor of Sturgis, the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Classic has grown and expanded in popularity. Sturgis is a community of roughly 6,000 citizens that hosts this annual event that brings up to a million visitors each year. Hosting an event of this magnitude takes considerable effort and skill, which Mayor Zeigler and his team of local partners have shown in abundance. In addition, they have hosted other established and expanding events such as Cavalry Days, the national Sheep Dog trials and competition, and the Meade County Gas and Threshing Bee.

I have had the privilege of working with Mayor Zeigler during his terms as mayor. His dedication and commitment to his community and its citizens are to be applauded, and I congratulate and commend him on his years of service, his leadership, vision, and work ethic. Mark and Gae will be greatly missed by the residents of Sturgis, and I want to wish them all the best as they open a new chapter in their lives. The mayor's accomplishments in Sturgis will long be remembered fondly by the city's residents and by those of us who had the pleasure of working with him.●

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, DULUTH, MINNESOTA

● Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, today I honor Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School, in Duluth, MN, which recently earned an Award for Excellence in Education for its exceptional and innovative achievements in educating children.

Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School is truly a model of educational success. For past 12 years, the school has embraced an environmental education emphasis, with a 100-percent commitment to recycling, breakfast and lunch waste reduction, an integrated environmental education curriculum, a composting shed, an alternative-energy tower, and annual environmentally themed service-learning projects at all grade levels. Stowe Elementary was one of six Minnesota schools to receive last year's Spotlight

Award from the Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation.

Improving pupils' achievement is also a primary focus at Stowe Elementary. The teachers and administrators establish annual goals relative to student achievement in reading, math, and writing, in addition to a goal related to the school's overall learning environment. The goals are comprehensive, including individual goals for every staff member. It has a summer "Jump Start" EXCEL Program for pupils determined to be at risk for maintaining their grade-level performance. Last year, Stowe Elementary received four stars in both reading and math from the Minnesota Department of Education.

Much of the credit for Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School's success belongs to its principal, Terry Cottingham, and to the dedicated teachers. The pupils and staff at Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School understand that, in order to be successful, a school must go beyond achieving academic success; it must also provide a nurturing environment where students can develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes for success throughout life. All of the faculty, staff, and pupils at Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School should be very proud of their accomplishments.

I congratulate Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School in Duluth for winning the Award for Excellence in Education and for its exceptional contributions to education in Minnesota.●

STATEMENT ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF WILMOT, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of the founding of the progressive city of Wilmot, SD. It is my pleasure to recognize the citizens of Wilmot on reaching this milestone.

Wilmot is the oldest town in Roberts County and was named after Mr. Wilmot, a director of the Milwaukee Railroad. Wilmot was first settled in 1880 and filed for a town charter with the territorial government on June 3, 1881. In the early years of Wilmot, the community was located in Grant County but was shortly thereafter included in the newly created Roberts County, where it served as county seat for a number of years. The Milwaukee Railroad, which helped bring Wilmot into existence, still runs through the town today.

The community has endured its share of hardship. For example, on June 17, 1944, much of the agricultural area surrounding Wilmot was destroyed by a tornado. Like many rural areas, the community came together to help one another, cleaning off farmland and rebuilding buildings. This incident shows the strength of the bonds that hold this rural community together.

According to the 2000 census, Wilmot has 543 people. Small towns like